



the *RARA RAG*

Published by

ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 56

JUNE 2004

NO.10

"Prez Says"

Brad Armstrong W1YX President

The gavel has been passed. The Banquet last Friday evening was a fine affair. Both the Atlantic and Hudson Division Directors attended, and the Atlantic Division Sections were well represented. I had the chance to make a few remarks about the importance of getting information and responsibility out to as much of our ranks as possible, but Dick Goslee ably hosted most of the evening. Awards were presented in recognition of three of our Club members' service to the amateur community. Lia Zwack, WA2NFY, was honored for her ongoing kindnesses to the families of SK's. Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, was honored for his endless years of service to the Club in more ways than most of us can even remember. Finally, I had the honor of presenting an award to Dick Goslee, KG2I, recognizing his 17 years as Club Treasurer among his many other services to the Club.



I would like to also take a moment to recognize here the work of the Hamfest Committee. Harold Smith and his "coolies" worked long and hard in the past week and put on another great event for us all. We had more than our fair share of presentations from the

League, in addition to all the usual events and vendors that make our Hamfest one of the best in the World. I personally had the opportunity to meet folks from all over the country who were in town for our weekend event. Local hams came out in force as well to enjoy the fine weather and do a little bargain hunting. It is too bad that every weekend of the year can't be the Rochester Hamfest!

Okay, now that it is summer in Rochester, don't put away your amateur radio gear – there is plenty to do throughout the season.

For starters, don't miss our annual picnic on the 19th of this month. There is no charge for attendance and you can bring your whole family. There will be a series of foxhunts, and all you need is an HT to get in on the fun. I'll be giving a quick lesson on how to find the fox before we start, so even a beginner can have a chance at one of the prizes. You can bring a dish to pass or enjoy the hots and hamburgs, which our President Emeritus George Platter will be serving up, but just don't forget to set aside the 19th to spend with us. We'll be at the Creekside lodge in Ellison Park; for talk-in call K2JD on 146.55 simplex.

There are many opportunities also for public service coming up. Contact our Public Service Chairman, Keith Freeberg, and he'll be glad to tell you all about how you can get involved in serving the community using just your amateur license and equipment you probably already own. Details are available at our Club website, <http://www.rochesterham.org>, or by giving him a call at home at 585-254-0722. No experience is necessary, only a willingness to get involved. Please consider taking time out of your busy schedule to give a little back on behalf of our avocation. You will have a great time and I am certain you'll get a great deal of satisfaction of participating. I look forward to seeing you out there this year!

PICNIC ELLISON PARK 06/19/04

RaRa RAG 1

the **RARA RAG**

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ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

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70th Rochester Hamfest

June 4-5-6

Harold Smith, K2HC

The 70th annual Rochester Hamfest combined with the Atlantic Division Convention is now history.

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, was honored at the annual awards banquet for his 33 years of devotion to the club and to the success of the Hamfest.

Here is a time line of his club activities as detailed by club historian Ed Gable, K2MP.

1968 Took the RaRa Code/Theory Course = WN2EKR.

1969 Already started to become active in RaRa by becoming Assistant Class director.

1970 Board of Directors.

1972/73 RaRa President.

Mid 70's became leader of Public Service activities for RaRa and later Emergency Coordinator for the Rochester area.

1972 as Asst. EC led a group of Hams to Southern Tier to participate in the Hurricane Agnes Flood.

Early saw need for Club station for CD/RACES/ARES Training and led the way to the K2JD Club station.

Fall 1977 K2JD built at 350 E. Henrietta Road (Iola Complex). Dedicated spring 1978.

Built K2JD Van and donated its use to RaRa and Civil Defense

Dec. 1981 led the move of K2JD to 111 Westfall Road.

As EC in 2002/2003 Coordinated move of Communications from Westfall Rd to Scottsville Rd.

Moving to other activities; 1980 to 2002 formed "Holdsworth Coolies" and worked to make the Dome Arena into the familiar Hamfest venue.

Took over the reins from Bob Lauzon and for many years headed up the K2JD Engraving Team.

For many years headed up the RaRa Camping trips.

1982/83 second term as President.

33 years of dedication to RaRa.

Kudos received via email:

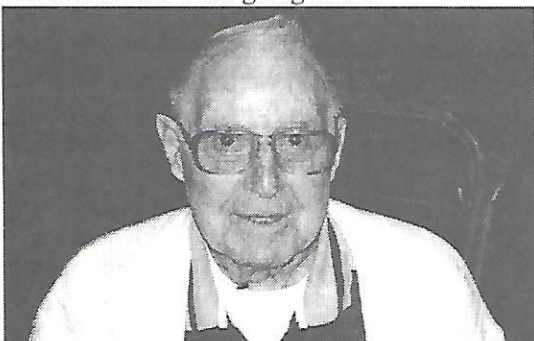
From Bob Raffaela, W2XM, Albany and Schenectady Amateur Radio Association:

This is to let you know that I thought the Hamfest and dinner were both great! Your club

CONTINUED 70th ON PAGE 5

CORRECTIONS ON PAST PRESIDENTS

Thanks to the superb memory and records of Ken Evans, W2UAD I have new information on who is the oldest living past President of RaRa. Dick Fish, W2OWF who was President in 1948-49. He was born 10-7-1918. That moves him to the top of the list both in terms of when he President and his current age. Sorry about that Fred and Ernst. You two are just youngsters compared to Dick Fish. Ken also tells me that Dick is still active on a local net each week. Nice going Dick.



AMATUER RADIO LUNCHEON

Ray Pickens WA2MYG

To all who can arrange their schedule? You are welcome to attend the last Friday of the Month (Unless it falls on a holiday) luncheon at the Ridge Rd. West Old Country Buffet located In Stone-Ridge Plaza 12:00 noon + or -. The Luncheons will continue all summer Long, June 25th, July 30th, August 27th, and September 24th .see you there.

NOTICE

This is the last RAG issue of
The 2003-2004 season, 2004
- 2005 season will start with
The September 2004 issue
NEXT RAG DEADLINE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2004



Past RaRa Presidents May 7, 2004

First Row Left to Right: Otto Buntzer WB2RJB 1980-81, Dick Fish W2OWF 1948-49, Cliff Milner Jr. K2SKO 1964-65, Fred Halik K2EU 1956-57, Harold Smith K2HC 1965-66, Jim Collinsworth N2JC 1976-77

Second Row Left to Right: George Platteter AA2FO 2003-04, Art Debruycker W2YGW 1996-97, Peter Fournia W2SKY 2001-02, Bill March WA2CER 1975-76, Keith Freeberg N2BEL 2000-01, Loyd Caves N2PU 1992-93, Dick Goslee KG2I 1986-87, Len Gessin WA2ZNC 1978-79, Ed Gable K2MP 1977-78

Thanks:

Ross Mazzola KC2LOC

Hardly a day goes by in the ham radio world without reading or hearing something about mentors, coaches, "Elmers" or radio educators and their impact on advancing the amateur radio service. Whatever these folks are called, I can tell you that I would not be involved with ham radio today had it not been for the help, encouragement and support of hams who took the time to help and nudge me along the way to an Amateur Extra Class license. I now want to take a little time myself to personally thank the following amateurs:

Bob Fox, KB2XI, for telling me about the involvement in the amateur radio service and challenging me to earn my Technician ticket. Steve Ziblut, WA2EKL, for sending me a letter after my first very VHF QSO welcoming me to the amateur radio community and offering his assistance, Ray Pickens, WA2MYG, for the "Newbie" Net on Sunday nights, Tim Groth, N2GON, and Dick Groth, WB2NBU, for teaching me about IRLP. Tom Sweeny, KC2IOF and Ed Martin, K2QP for giving up their Monday nights and being CW and General Class instructors. Frank Lisuzzo, WA2NQS, for "bribing" me with a set of Heathkit "Twins" (SB-301/SB-401) if I earned my General class privileges, Ed Gable, K2MP, for getting those Heathkits ready for the air. Otto Bluntzer, WB2RJB, for making a housecall to show me how to run the classic tube rigs. Dick LeVeque, WA2HFU for inviting me into his "shack" and letting me make my first DX contact from his station. Brad Armstrong, W1YX, for giving me a length of 300 ohm ladder line to build by first G5RV antenna (on which I've worked about 20 states and 15 countries on only 5 watts!). Greg Michels KC2GXV for his help with providing parts for a homebrew NVIS antenna for EmComms and Field Day. Peter Schuch, WB2UAQ, for leading the Extra class course this spring. My terrific classmates Rob Brown K2KYW, Bill Kraft WB2IHM, Dean Alexander K2ULB, Stewart Coon KA2OMS and Jim Wagner KB2RPV, who with their experience and enthusiasm made the classes fun and interesting.

Last, but certainly not least, I also want to thank the local VE teams who always made me feel welcome and had smiles on their faces that made taking the exams just a little bit less stressful. So, how do we recruit and keep new

hams? Take a little time your self to talk to anyone who shows and interest in amateur radio. You just might be creating a ham for life!

Batavia Hamfest

Saturday, July 17, 2004

Harold Hay, W2ABQ

If you are interested in "the best little Hamfest in Western New York," come to the 24th annual Batavia Hamfest on Saturday, July 17, 2004. This Hamfest is sponsored by GRAM (Genesee Radio Amateurs, Inc.) and will be again held at the Fireman's Recreation Center on Route 98 in Alexander, New York.

Gates open at 6:30 a.m.; admission is \$5.00. Those who want to set up flea market tables, indoors or out can do so at no additional cost (vendors must reserve inside tables). There will be drawings for a variety of awards, and the Ladies Auxiliary offers both breakfast and a chicken barbeque on a first-come-first-served basis.

Come to the GRAM booth to see the HDVD display that is at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

ARRL Field Checker Ed Gable K2MP will be in the fire hall at 10:30 a.m. to check DXCC, WAS, and VUCC cards.

The fire department welcomes campers and motor homes after noon on Friday, July 16, for a small fee, and GRAM will host a hospitality tent free pop, hots, and hamburgs.

Check-in 142.52 MHz, 6:00-10:00 a.m.;
Talk-in 147.285+ MHz.

For inquiries and information, contact Harold Hay W2ABQ at 585-343-1330, or email to wa2abq@localnet.com. Alternate email contact is Howard Flint KC2EZJ at hjfsrmt@2ki.net. Visit our website for details at: <http://www.hamgate.net/~gram/>

SILENT KEYS:

Ralph W. Baxendale	W2RSS	05/11/04
David W. Stewart	K2ZCD	04/17/04
Robert W. Osborn	ex-W2CFE	05/14/04
William A. O'Donnell	W2XJ	05/?/04

RaRa Hotline (585) 442-0587

Batavia Hamfest

And

Computer Show

Saturday, July 17, 2004

FIREMAN'S RECREATION CENTER

Route 98 - Alexander, NY

Check-in 146.52 MHz 6:00-10:00 AM

Talk-in 147.285+ MHz

Fox Hunt at 10:15 AM

ADMISSION \$5

Free indoor and outdoor flea market

Breakfast/Chicken Barbeque available

AWARDS

ICOM IC-706MkIIIG

Hand Held Radio

\$100 Cash

Check-in

Fox Hunt

Hourly Drawings

HDVD Display at the GRAM booth

Free Admission for All Girl & Boy
Scouts in uniform

ARRL Field Checker Ed Gable K2MP
available in fire hall at 10:30 a.m. for
DXCC, WAS, VUCC card checking
Hospitality Tent (free pop, hot, bur-
gers) Friday, July 16 - 4:00 p.m.

Campers and motor homes welcome
after NOON on Friday (small fee col-
lected by Alexander Fire Department)

Inquiries and information

585-343-1330

(Vendors must reserve inside tables)

Email: wa2abq@localnet.com

Or hjfsrmt@2ki.net

Or w2dig@bluefrog.com

Visit our website for details at:

<http://www.hamgate.net/~gram/>

RaRa

Amateur Radio

License Testing

All Elements Needed To Complete
a License Class

Saturday September 18, 2004

Contact Cheryl Joyce AB2NU
For any special needs (585-533-9252)

Registration - 8:30 AM

Testing - 9:00 AM

Room 2150, Building 76

(Park in Lot F)

Rochester Institute of Technology

1 Lomb Memorial Drive

Rochester, NY 14623

KODAK A.R.C VE TESTING (W5YI VEC)

Ray Pickens WA2MYG (Contact Person)

Kodak VE testing team is operating on a
new schedule every 4 months, the next session
will be on August 5, 2004 17:30 Building 28
(Theater on the Ridge) at Kodak Park. This
decision was arrived at due to very poor show-
ing of applicants in recent months. If there is a
need for a group of applicants such as a class
or club to have a special VE session please
notify me wa2myg@arrl.net or by phone
(585)334-8724

CONTINUED FROM 70th PAGE 2

does so much that it inspires me to push MY
club to do more. I brought a friend with me
this year. Maybe I'll bring several friends next
year!

From Dick Goslee: KG2I

Just wanted to thank you for letting me be
the MC at the banquet. I had a wonderful time
and I know my family enjoyed it very much as
well. I always enjoy working on projects for
the Hamfest and I will be ready to help you
again next year.

RARA RAG 5

4th Annual Memorial Scholarship Awarded at Hamfest Banquet

Dick Goslee KG2I

This year's Rochester Amateur Radio Association Memorial Scholarship was awarded to John R. McIntyre, KC2JSJ. John, who is the only two time recipient of the Scholarship is the son of long-standing RaRa member Marvin McIntyre, K2ZAA. He graduated from Irondequoit High School and is attending RIT studying Electrical Engineering. In addition to the RaRa Memorial Scholarship John is the recipient of the Ries Memorial Scholarship and the RIT President's Scholarship. John hopes to become an Electrical Engineer for a relatively small production company where he can become closely involved with the Production Team so he can see his ideas become reality.

Past winners of the Scholarship have included Kellie Gauvin, KB2CHC in 2001, Kristy Dibelka, KC2GKE in 2002 and John McIntyre, KC2JSJ in 2003. Applications are available from RaRa anytime during the year and they must be submitted no later than April 15. The winner is announced by May 15 and



the Scholarship is presented at the Hamfest Banquet each year.

The RaRa Memorial Scholarship was started with donations in memory of William Buchan, W2OMV, William Resch, K4VOS, and A. Leland Zwack, W2WPF. These donations along with other recent donations and the

RaRa Life Member Funds are invested in a Money Market Fund with the proceeds being used to fund the scholarship each year. Additional Tax Exempt Donations (RaRa is a 501 (c) 3 Corporation) may be made at any time by sending them to P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333. If the donations are in memory of a "Silent Key" please so indicate on your donation.

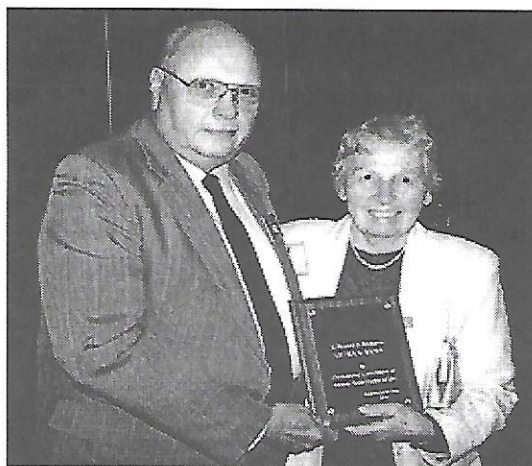
Special Award at Hamfest Banquet

Dick Goslee KG2I

Lia Zwack, WA2NFY was presented with a special award at the Friday evening banquet of the 70th Rochester Hamfest. The award recognized her many years of service to RaRa and to the betterment of the quality of life in the amateur radio community.

To fulfill a need to reach out and help others, Lia came up with an idea to not only help the club, but more importantly to help individual fellow hams that have suffered misfortune. For almost as long as she has been a member of RaRa, Lia has at her own expense, sent cards and letters to the families of those who have experienced misfortune.

Lia's ham radio activities include the Sunday night net, contesting, CW, Phone and DX as well as local and national YLRL activities. She is truly "one of a kind", and a great ambassador for Amateur Radio.



Talk
Up
Amateur
Radio

Confessions of a Newbie:

Part 3 My First Hamfest

Larry Wallnau W2ZEY

I arrived at the Rochester Hamfest shortly after 0900 on Friday and found Judith Stonehill (N2KXS) setting up the Monroe County ARES booth. She had photographs representative of the ARES mission, as well as a computer presentation of ARES work. Peter Fournia (W2SKY) and Bill Hopkins (AA2YV) were busy with RaRa activities. Bill quickly recruited me to assist in setting up the RaRa booth. It consisted of an impressive array of photographs of club activities. These photographs were arranged on a three-panel display befitting any profession presentation. A computer ran a slide show which described RaRa and its activities. Copies of the ARRL brochure *Leap into Amateur Radio* were available for any child or parent that showed interest. I staffed the booth until 1430 and met many hams, including one from Connecticut. He decided to join RaRa because he grew up in Rochester and wants to keep in touch with what goes on in our amateur radio community.

I visited booths the remainder of the day. Fellow RaRa members prepared me for the Rochester Hamfest. They told me there would be dealers of new and used ham equipment and accessories. I got the heads-up on the computer vendors, should I want to upgrade my lethargic processor. A few of our members simply said, "You'll see *everything* there." And they were correct. Anything goes. However, I was surprised to find a dealer in used classic cameras – Leica, Zeiss Ikon, and the like. Yes, I did spend time (but no money) at that booth because my other passion is for classic cameras.

My first purchase was a name badge with my call sign. Then, I got some much needed coax from Radioware. And I gathered items for homebrew projects like a couple of 0-1 mA panel meters, several power transformers, a few large filter chokes, and electrolytic capacitors. These totaled about \$10. At WB0W, I picked up the newest edition of the ARRL General Class book for summer study, and a coil-winding slide rule. One fellow at the flea market had an assortment of used antennas. All that aluminum strewn about made his area look like a scrap metal yard. After rummaging for a

time, I found a 2 meter beam – a 4-element Cushcraft 124WB. The seller took twenty-five. (*When I got home and checked its specs on the internet, I was pleased to find that its gain is 10.2 dB.*)

I could easily write about the things I *did not* purchase. I considered an antenna with more gain for the HT. And there were roller inductors that I did not take home. A dummy load tempted me, but I decided to stick to my plan to build one. And there were so many good books at the CQ table and at WB0W.

My last stop turned out to be my favorite. The table had a bunch of gel cells of varied sizes. I picked one up, marked \$6, for a closer look. A deep voice bellowed from the other side of the table, "It's yours now." I put the battery down and picked up a different one. His wife said, "Look honey, he's got another." He boomed, "That's yours, too." Undeterred, I placed the battery down and picked up a third. "Now you've got three," chimed the husband and wife chorus. I looked at the couple as if to say, "Now, I'm not going to fall for your sales tactics." He gestured at the batteries, "Take them, they're yours. Free." I looked at him quizzically. He put a meter to each battery to demonstrate their condition. "Where else can you get this deal? They're yours, take them." I thanked him repeatedly and grabbed three gel cells, like a kid getting free candy from the proprietor of the corner mom and pop store. As I walked back to the car with them I wondered, how many batteries could I have gotten – if only I had continued touching them?

SUNDAY NIGHT NET SCHEDULE

20:15 NEWSLINE (+ OR- depending on the length of Newsline)

20:45 K2KWK Hilltop Bulletins

21:00 Monroe County FM Net

21:25 NEWBIE NET (+ or – depending on FM net length)

These Nets alternate between the K2SA/R (146.19/79) and the K2RRA/R (146.28/88) with the N2HJD/R system Linked.

**THESE NETS WILL CONTINUE
THROUGH OUT THE SUMMER**

RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago, June 1984

Ed Gable K2MP

As usual this issue was filled with the results of the Rochester Hamfest. General Chairman Harold Smith, K2HC, reported that attendance neared the 10,000 point, while Flea Market Chairman Dave Payne, KA2J, said more hams set up in the flea market than ever before. John Schooley, K2NC, VE Committee Chairman, reported that 117 took amateur exams with a 50% passing rate. At the Friday night banquet, ARRL President emeritus Harry Dannels, W2HD, presented the Amateur of the year award to Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ. Also very traditional in this issue was the announcement on the popular RaRa Picnic. This year the picnic was held at Wadhams Lodge in Powder Mill Park. Elections were held in May and reported here revealing Ray Roberts, WA2SSU as President, VP to Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ, John Lloyd, KA2KfV to Secretary, and John VanGriethuysen, N2BNE, Treasurer. Directors were: N2DPF, N2CUN, N2BEL, K2VCZ, N2EH, AC2K and N2BXA. Ed Holdsworth published a list of public service events during the summer months with seven such events scheduled. With regret it was reported that Fred Barto, WA2GCZ, and Hugh McPherson, KA2CSD, became silent keys. An interesting story reveals that long time RF'er John Riley, N2ERJ, just left for the Azores on his 41 foot yacht the *Dolphin*. His ultimate plans were to live aboard his yacht in France. From the Want Ads you could buy a Wilson 5 element, 15 meter monoband yagi from Ray DeMers, W2KVP. *Radio World* of Oriskany, NY, remained a long time advertiser.

Make sure you schedule a visit to the AWA antique radio Museum this summer. I know you've been putting it off... shame on you and what a treat you're missing. Drive down to lovely Bloomfield, New York, any Sunday or Saturday at 2:00 p.m. Visit www.antiquewireless.org for details. Admission is free.

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS
AND YOUR LOCAL REPEATERS**

RaRa RAG 8

RaRa's New Domain Name

Please bookmark our new internet address:

www.rochesterham.org

Are you a Rochester ham? Bug our website monthly to checkout on the most current events. The old URL still works, but, no guarantee in the future. Note rochesterham is one word. Capitalization may work with most web browsers.

**I STILL HEAR STATIONS ASKING "DOES
RaRa HAVE A WEBSITE?" WELL HERE IT IS**

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RaRa License Class

Ray Pickens WA2MYG

We started last semester (September 8th –November 24th) with 20 combined course students. Within the first three weeks 3 more students joined the Class, by the 9th week there were 4 drop-outs putting us back to 19 students. OnBut on the bright side we had 7 upgrades, 3 Technicians/Code, and 3 new Technicians

The new License Class started February 16, 2004, as of Monday the 19th the 10th week of a 12 week course there are 16 students out the 18 that started on February 16th not to shabby.

As of May 3rd 5 students upgraded at the April 17th RaRa VE session 3 to Extra Bill WB2IHM, Dean K2ULB, & Ross KC2LOC; JimKC2MGK upgraded to General, & Tobias KC2MWJ passed the Technician exam. The remaining 11 students plan on taking their exams at the May 15th RaRa VE session.

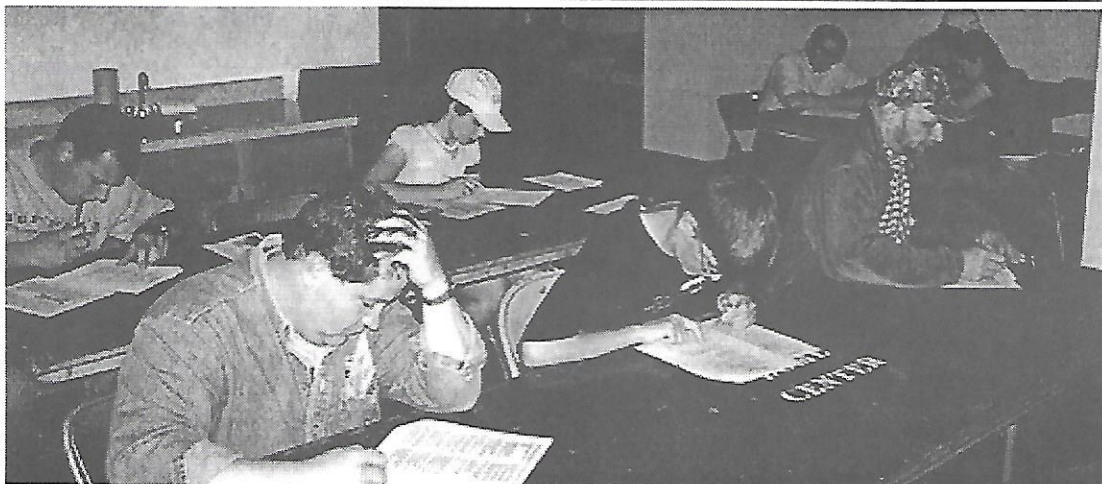
At the May 15th RaRa VE session 8 of the remaining 11 students showed up all but passed and or upgraded but one. Mark KC2MZO Tech/with code, Josephine KC2MZS General, Bob KC2MZT Tech, Jim KC2MGK General, Matt KC2MCB General, Joe K2KYW Extra, & Peter WB2UAQ Extra (the instructor).

The September RaRa Amateur Radio License Class will begin on September 20, 2004 & end

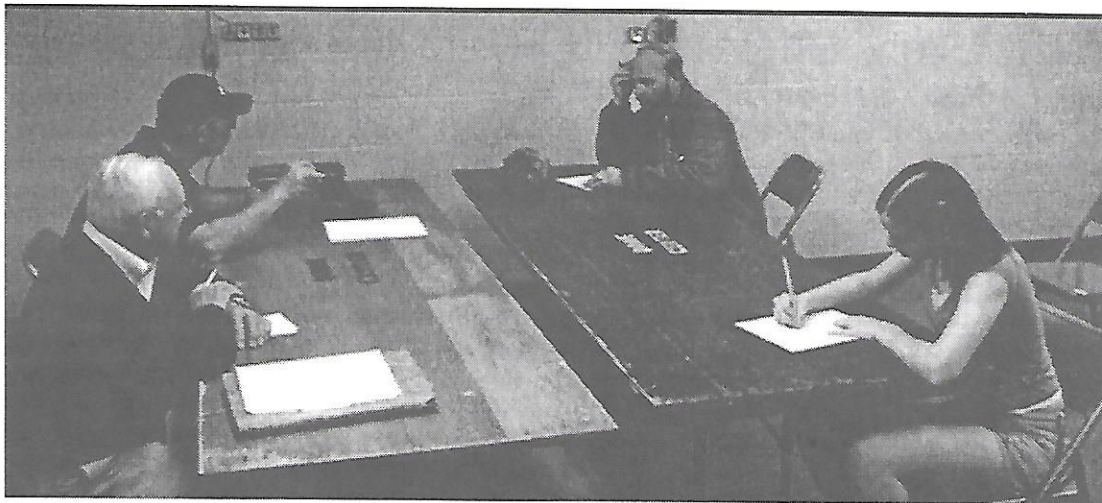


THE ROCHESTER 2004 HAMFEST VE TESTING

Friday's session 7 new licensee's 6 failed upgrades, Saturday's session 7 upgrades 13 failures



RARA RAG 9



**THE ROCHESTER 2004 HAMFEST
FLEA MARKET AND INSIDE THE DOME EXHIBIT HALL**





THE ROCHESTER 2004 HAMFEST SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR

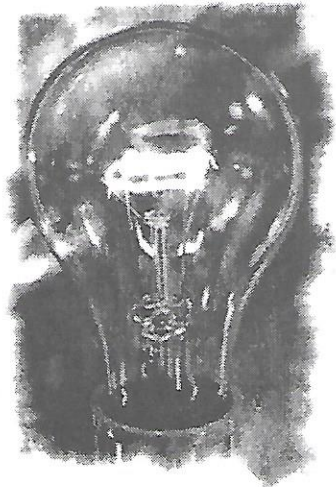


LET US HELP YOU PATENT YOUR INVENTION

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349 West Commercial Street, Suite 2490
East Rochester, New York 14445
Telephone: (585) 387-0285

Howard J. Greenwald, AB2IID, Patent Attorney
John M. Hammond, P.E., Patent Agent, Chemical Engineer
Peter J. Mikesell, Ph.D., Patent Agent, Chemist
Robert D. Gunderman, P.E., Electrical Engineer

NO CHARGE TO RaRa MEMBERS FOR CONSULTATION



GLEN WOOD SALES

594 HAGUE STREET
ROCHESTER, NY 14606

HOURS:
M-F 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

PH: (585) 328-1600
FAX: (585) 328-3630

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I LOW PRICES
I IN-DEPTH INVENTORY

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FANS
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